

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/064,797
Docket NO.: 8248-US-PA

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A stylus retaining and releasing mechanism suitable for use within a housing that can receive a stylus having a retaining slot formed thereon, wherein the housing has a cavity into which the stylus can be slidably inserted, the stylus retaining and releasing mechanism comprising:

a stylus-releasing device, wherein the stylus-releasing device is arranged at a location of the housing that terminates the cavity so that, in a first stage of operation, the stylus-releasing device can store resilient force in a stable configuration after the stylus being inserted in the cavity presses on the stylus-releasing device to engage into the first stable configuration, and in a second stage of operation, the stylus-releasing device can exert a resilient force on the stylus being held immobile in the cavity to eject the stylus out of the cavity after a short pressing action is applied on the inserted stylus to disengage the stylus-releasing device from the stable configuration; and

a retainer, wherein the retainer is arranged adjacent to the cavity so that the retainer can resiliently deviate when contacted with the stylus being inserted in the cavity, the retainer further includes a protruding clamping member that inserts in the retaining slot of the stylus to hold and immobilize the stylus in the cavity once the inserted stylus engages the stylus-releasing device in the stable configuration; wherein the stylus retaining and releasing mechanism further comprises

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an impeding member made of a material with relatively high friction coefficient, which is so arranged to be in contact with the stylus in the cavity to moderate the ejection of the stylus.

2. (original) The mechanism of claim 1, wherein the retainer is formed with the housing in a single body.

3-4 (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The mechanism of claim 4 1, wherein the impeding member includes foam polymer material.

6. (original) The mechanism of claim 1, wherein the stylus-releasing device is fixedly attached on the housing by means of a resilient plate, the resilient plate is fixedly attached to the stylus-releasing device and further terminates into a plurality of bent claws that fixedly insert in the housing.

7. (currently amended) An electronic equipment having a touch panel display screen, comprising:

a stylus, wherein the stylus serves as pointing device, and has a retaining slot thereon;

a housing, wherein the housing includes a cavity in which the stylus can be slidably inserted when not used;

a stylus-releasing device, wherein the stylus-releasing device is arranged at a location of the housing that terminates the cavity so that, in a first stage of operation, the stylus-releasing device can store resilient force in a stable configuration after the stylus being inserted in the cavity presses on the stylus-releasing device to engage into the first stable configuration, and in a

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second stage of operation, the stylus-releasing device can exert a resilient force on the stylus being held immobile in the cavity to eject the stylus out of the cavity after a short pressing action is applied on the inserted stylus to disengage the stylus-releasing device from the stable configuration; and

a retainer, wherein the retainer is arranged adjacent to the cavity so that the retainer can resiliently deviate when contacted with the stylus being inserted in the cavity, the retainer further includes a protruding clamping member that inserts in the retaining slot of the stylus to hold and immobilize the stylus in the cavity once the inserted stylus engages the stylus-releasing device in the stable configuration; wherein the stylus retaining and releasing mechanism further comprises an impeding member made of a material with relatively high friction coefficient, which is so arranged to be in contact with the stylus in the cavity to moderate the ejection of the stylus.

8. (original) The electronic equipment of claim 7, wherein the retainer is formed with the housing in a single body.

9-10 (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) The mechanism of claim ~~10~~ 7, wherein the impeding member includes foam polymer material.

12.(original) The mechanism of claim 1, wherein the stylus-releasing device is fixedly attached on the housing by means of a resilient plate, the resilient plate is fixedly attached to the stylus-releasing device and further terminates into a plurality of bent claws that fixedly insert in the housing.